[English]

Science of Ayurveda

*122. DR. G.R. SARODE : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the oldest science of Ayurvedic treatment is gradually disappearing;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) The action Government propose to take so that this knowledge is preserved;

(d) whether the Government are aware that very few people are left with the Nadi Gyan i.e. capacity of diagnosis of disease through vibration of the pulse, in the country;

(e) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to provide due protection to the science of Ayurvedic diagnosis, preparation of cheap medicines and treatment with the help of such medicines which do not cause any side effect; and

(f) if so, the action being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Since independence the Government has taken various steps for the promotion and development of Ayurveda. Basic infrastructure as indicated below has been built:

(i) IMCC Act, 1970 was passed with a view to enforce minimum standards of education, register and lay down professional conduct and code of ethics for ISM Practitioners.

(ii) The establishment of the Central Council for Research in Ayurveda & Siddha.

(iii) A network of 123 Government and non-Government teaching institutions of Ayurveda and Siddha across the country.

(iv) Centres or excellence at Banaras Hindu University, Gujarat Ayurvedic University Jamnagar, National Institute of Ayurveda, Jaipur.

(v) Pharmacopoeal Laboratory of Indian Medicine, Ghaziabad set up for work pertain ing to drug standardisation and quality control.

(vi) Setting up of a separate Department of ISM&H.

(vii) With the creation of the Department of ISM&H, various developmental schemes have been formulated for the implementation in the 9th Plan period.

(d) to (f) There are approximately 3.70 lakh physicians of Ayurveda. All institutionally trained physicians are taught the technique of Nadi Vigyan. Last year the Rashtriya Ayurveda Vidyapeeth organised a workshop on Nadi Vigyan.

There is a Central Scheme for enhancing the availability of raw material used in the manufacture of ISM&H drugs. It is widely acknowledged that Ayurvedic medicines are not only cost effective but also substantially without side effects.

Foreign Investors in Road Construction

*124. SHRI CHITTA BASU : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have since decided to offer some special concessions to foreign investors for investment in the construction of roads;

(b) if so, the details of the concessions;

(c) whether any foreign investors have since applied for the same;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the Government's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b) Government has recently approved a new policy package for encouraging private investment both domestic and foreign, in the development of National Highways. The policy provides for the choice of the investor through competitive bidding and does not provide for any special concession to foreign investors.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e). Do not arise.

Dispute On Irrigation Projects Between A.P. and Orissa

*126. SHRI L. RAMANA:
SHRI AYYANNA PATRUDU :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of long pending disputes between Andhra Pradesh and Orissa over irrigation projects like Vamsadhara, Jhanjavathi and Bahuda; and

(b) the measures taken to persuade the State Governments to solve the disputes amicably?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) and (b) Neradi Barrage, a component of Vamsadhara Stage-II as proposed by Government of Andhra Pradesh was likely to submerge 1326 acres of land in Orissa against 106 acres agreed by Government of Orissa. Government of Andhra Pradesh has submitted modified proposal in February, 1996 wherein Neradi Barrage was not included thus eliminating submergence of the Orissa territory. However, concurrence of Orissa Government to the modified proposal has not been received.